

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1-23. (Canceled).

24. (New) A method for treating a respiratory coronavirus infection in a patient, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of Thymosin alpha-1 (TA1) sufficient to stimulate the patient's immune system, wherein the TA1 is administered at least once daily by subcutaneous injection.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein said respiratory viral infection is SARS.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is within the range of about 0.1 to 20 mg.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is within the range of about 0.5 to 10 mg.

28. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is within the range of about 1 to 5 mg.

29. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is 1.6 to 3.2 mg.

30. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising, administering an antiviral.

31. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the TA1 is conjugated to polyethylene glycol (PEG).

32. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the TA1 is synthetic or recombinant.

33. (New) A method for stimulating the immune response in a patient at high risk of exposure to SARS, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of Thymosin alpha-1 (TA1) sufficient to stimulate the patient's immune system, wherein the TA1 is administered at least once daily by subcutaneous injection.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is within the range of about 0.1 to 20 mg.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is within the range of about 0.5 to 10 mg.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is within the range of about 1 to 5 mg.

37. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the effective amount of the TA1 is 1.6 to 3.2 mg.

38. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising, administering an antiviral.

39. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the TA1 is conjugated to polyethylene glycol (PEG).

40. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the TA1 is synthetic or recombinant.